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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 4329.2484-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Masahiro TADA et al.) Group Art Unit: 2115
)
Application No.: 09/746,222) Examiner: Cao, Chun
)
Filed: December 26, 2000)
)
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING) Confirmation No.: 1143
APPARATUS AND OPERATING)
STATE CONTROL METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application, to the undersigned's knowledge at the time of this paper's filing. This IDS supplements the IDS filed December 26, 2000.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. In lieu of a statement of relevance of the non-English language document, Applicants submit herewith a copy of a European Search Report issued in a counterpart application listing the document and setting forth its relevance. Applicants also submit an English language Abstract from the European Patent Office for the non-English language document.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

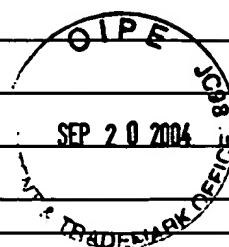
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 20, 2004

By: 
Frank A. Italiano
Reg. No. 53,056

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	4329.2484-00	Appln. No.	09/746,222
Applicant	Masahiro TADA et al.		
Filing Date	December 26, 2000	Group:	2115



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
0 310 379 A2	04/1989	Europe			
0 358 166 A2	03/1990	Europe			
EP 0 949 557 A1	10/1999	Europe			
10-326126	12/1998	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce